## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

**JACOBSON** 

Examiner:

Serial No.:

09/175,589

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

OCTOBER 20, 1998

Docket No.:

Title:

ELECTRONIC RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 30, 2002.

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:



In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2002, Applicant submits the following Amendment and Remarks.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-2, 4-6, 10, 12-18 and 20-22 as follows:

[Third Amendment] In a distributed computing environment, a method for managing an electronic record for compliance with a retention policy of an organization, the method comprising the steps of:

creating an electronic tag that uniquely identifies the electronic record, the tag having at least one field for characterizing the record;

storing the at least one electronic tag in a central repository;

sending the electronic record to a recipient; and

wherein:

at least one of the steps of creating and storing ensure maintenance of the characterized record for a minimum time period based on the retention policy; and